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September 1946

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL  
BY SPECIAL MEMORANDUM

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am in receipt of your letter of August 19th, 1946, in which you request advice as to adjustment in the schedule for transfer of intelligence coverage in Latin America, previously forwarded to you. I note that you are anxious to return to the domestic field the FBI personnel now assigned on Latin American operations, and that you anticipate difficulties in continuing operations over an extended period while complete withdrawal is pending.

The dates fixed in our schedule were based on a careful study of the time required for the recruitment and training of qualified personnel, and the completion of the necessary administrative steps to place such personnel in the various posts indicated. While these dates are intended to represent the maximum time within which our field organization can adequately be set up, earlier dates could not be set without a radical curtailment of the personnel procurement and training program which CIG regards as indispensable.

You may be assured of my strong desire that CIG assume, at the earliest practicable date, the full responsibility in this area resultant upon FBI withdrawal. To this end, I directed at the time this transfer was determined that priority be given within CIG to all operations related to the establishment of Latin American coverage. Efforts will be made to advance the dates fixed in our schedule wherever possible, and the Department of State promised full cooperation in these efforts when it voiced concurrence in the schedule submitted. However, it would not be possible in any case to approximate the dates you mention, namely, September 15th and November 1st, 1946, and January 1st, 1947, for the three areas indicated.

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I will be glad to keep you advised so that, in the event any acceleration is possible, you may advance FBI withdrawal in accordance with your wishes.

With personal regards and good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

HOYT S. VANDENBERG  
Lieutenant General, USA  
~~Director of Central Intelligence~~

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